

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LAWSUIT ABUSE REDUCTION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the so-called Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act (H.R. 758). This misguided bill would reinstate procedural rules that failed thirty years ago, stripping federal judges of the ability to impose the sanctions they deem appropriate for bringing frivolous lawsuits. During the ten years the old rules were in effect, judges completely lost their discretion about whether or not to impose sanctions on attorneys and were forced to issue harsh penalties for even the smallest infractions. Heavy punishments under the old system lead to endless motions that clogged our already burdened legal system, preventing access to justice.

Moreover, had the provisions in this bill been law for all of the twentieth century, they would have prevented dozens of landmark civil rights cases from moving forward. Under this bill, both *Brown v. Board of Education*, which struck down school segregation, and *Loving v. Virginia*, which eliminated bans on interracial marriage, might not have made it into the courtroom. To rectify this situation, Congress in 1993 brought back the standards that existed during the Civil Rights Era, giving judges more flexibility and focusing on deterrence, rather than punishment. H.R. 758 would undo that work by abandoning our faith in judicial prudence. We should not repeat the mistakes of the past, and we should not allow this bill to become law.

RECOGNIZING PATRICIA FRY FOR BECOMING A FINALIST FOR NA- TIONAL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Fry, a dedicated principal who has been selected as, not only the Massachusetts Principal of the year, but is also a finalist for the 2015 National Principal of the Year.

The National Principal of the Year program identifies exemplary principals, like Patricia, from both the middle school and high school levels across the United States who have gone above and beyond to provide the best quality educational opportunities for their students while also contributing significantly to their profession, and I can think of no one more deserving than Patricia.

For the past 10 years, Patricia has served as principal at Plymouth South High School in

Plymouth, Massachusetts. Prior to this position, she has served as principal at Seekonk High School in Seekonk, Massachusetts. Before rising to the position of principal, Patricia endeavored to engage and shape young minds as a Spanish teacher and an assistant principal at Barnstable High School. Additionally, she is an accomplished presenter at workshops and conferences geared toward educators—having presented her energizing lessons, passion for the material, and commitment to the students all over the country.

Patricia is not only an educator but is also a lifelong learner. Though she has an undergraduate degree from Stonehill College and a Master's degree from Bridgewater State University, she has continued her education and is working toward completing her dissertation for a PhD from Lesley University. Her curiosity and passion for learning is a model for her students, and most importantly, is unparalleled.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Patricia Fry for achieving this prestigious recognition. I know all my colleagues in the House join me in congratulating her and wishing her nothing but success in the future.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JESÚS RAMOS RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE AWARD

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the recipients of the sixteenth annual St. Madeleine Sophie Awards, given by Sacred Heart Schools (SHS), Atherton, California. The recipients of this prestigious and highly regarded recognition are individuals in the SHS community who have made a sustained and significant contribution to the Schools and embody the Goals and Criteria of a Sacred Heart education. Their commitment to the mission of a Sacred Heart education is a source of great inspiration to our entire community. This awards celebration will be held on September 23, 2015, in the Eileen Sullivan Connolly Auditorium in the Campbell Center for the Performing Arts at Sacred Heart Schools in Atherton.

This year's award recipient, Jesús Ramos, has given generously of his time, talent, and devotion to the Mission of the Society of the Sacred Heart.

Jesús Ramos is a Spanish instructor and coordinator of the Senior Honors Independent Study Program at Sacred Heart Schools in Atherton, California. In his 25 years as an educator in several independent schools, Jesús has worked in a wide range of school positions and functions: middle school academic dean; middle and high school Spanish teacher; World Languages department head; college counselor; founder of an office of Diver-

sity and Inclusion; middle and high school admissions committees; coach; dorm faculty member; peer mentor and evaluator; and campus ministry. In these capacities he has gained invaluable collaborative, communication, problem-solving, and strategic planning fluencies: mediating between teachers, parents and students; directing curriculum design; overseeing the hiring and evaluation of new and returning teachers; working with faculty, students, the Admissions Office and the Head of Schools on issues of equity, justice and multiculturalism; counseling students and their families through the college application process; and equally exercising his duties as coach, faculty resident and classroom teacher. Jesús earned his B.A. in Theology and Spanish Literature and his M.A. in Spanish Literature from the University of Notre Dame. He resides in Menlo Park, California.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the extraordinary work and contributions of Jesús Ramos and congratulate him on being honored with the St. Madeleine Sophie Award.

FLORIDA INVENTORS HALL OF FAME

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 13 inventors who have been recognized as the Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame since its founding. In order to be named as an Inductee, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have undergone the scrutiny of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Selection Committee. Each of their innovations is deemed to have made a significant impact on quality of life, economic development, and welfare of society for the citizens of Florida and the United States.

The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 2013 by Paul R. Sanberg, Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development, and Judy Genshaft, President, at the University of South Florida. It was recognized by the Florida Senate with Senate Resolution 1756, adopted at the request of Florida Senator Jeff Brandes (22nd district), on April 30, 2014. By commending the incredible scientific work that has been, and continues to be, accomplished in Florida by its citizens, the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame's mission is to encourage individuals of all ages and backgrounds to strive toward the betterment of Florida and society through continuous, groundbreaking innovation.

Nomination to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame is open to all Florida inventors (living or dead) who are, or who have been, residents of Florida and whose connection to the State has informed their inventive work. The nominee must be a named inventor on a patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The impact of the inventor and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.